

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Non-final Office action mailed March 11, 2004. Claims 1-49 were examined. Claims 7, 38, 42, 44, 45 and 47 were rejected, claims 6, 15-28, 30-37, 39-41, 43, 46, 48 and 49 were objected to, and claims 1-5, 8-14 and 29 were allowed. Applicant appreciates this indication of allowance and allowability.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant wishes to make the Examiner aware of an Information Disclosure Statement that was previously mailed to the USPTO on January 3, 2002 (and received by the USPTO on January 15, 2002). Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the submitted references, if not already so considered, and return to Applicant an initialed copy of the Forms PTO-1449 with the next Office action.

Formal Drawings

Applicant wishes to make the Examiner aware of a previously-filed preliminary amendment to the drawings, and a previously-filed submission of formal drawings consistent therewith, both mailed on April 4, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the submitted formal drawings, if not already so considered, and indicate approval of said formal drawings in the next Office action.

Claim Objections

Claims 15-28, 30-37, 39-44, 46, 48 and 49 were objected to because of certain informalities. Applicant has amended the claims largely as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant has also amended claims 2-7 and 9-14 similarly. Regarding claim 17, Applicant respectfully believes the originally-presented language is not improper, and requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection.

Claim 6 stands as objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant has amended claim 6 to recite an additional limitation, and believes the claim to now be in proper dependent form.

The amendments to these claims are not motivated by an art rejection, nor are believed to be narrowing amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 7 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended both claims in response to this rejection. Claim 7 now depends from claim 5, and claim 42 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The amendments are not motivated by an art rejection, nor are believed to be narrowing amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 38, 44, 45 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim (U. S. Patent No. 6,694,422). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in part.

Regarding independent claim 38, Applicant has amended the claim to now recite the additional limitation of “S1 is not equal to one-half of S2” which limitation is not taught or suggested by Kim. Amended claim 38 is believed allowable over the art of record.

Regarding dependent claim 44, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as Kim does not teach or suggest a non-volatile memory array as recited in the claim. Since claim 44 is believed allowable at least for its dependence from allowable claim 38 as amended, the originally-filed claim 44 (including the limitations of originally-filed claim 38) has been re-presented as new claim 70, which is believed allowable over the art of record.

Regarding independent claim 45, Applicant has amended the claim to now recite the additional limitation of “wherein the array is initially addressable in the first mode until a page larger than said first width is first addressed, and is then addressable only in the second mode” which limitation is not taught or suggested by Kim. Amended claim 45 is believed allowable over the art of record.

Regarding independent claim 47, Applicant has amended the claim to now recite the additional limitation of a “three-dimensional memory array having more than one plane of

memory cells” which limitation is not taught or suggested by Kim. Amended claim 47 is believed allowable over the art of record.

New independent claim 50 corresponds closely to originally-presented claim 38 with the additional limitation of a “three-dimensional memory array having more than one plane of memory cells” which limitation is not taught or suggested by Kim. Claim 50 is believed allowable over the art of record.

New dependent claims 51-69 and 71-74 have been added to better protect Applicant’s invention. Each is well supported by the specification (including originally filed claims) and none adds new matter. In particular, support for claims reciting a memory array accessed byte-serially by page may at least be found in the specification at page 10 in paragraph 1035, at page 9 in paragraph 1032, and at page 2 in paragraph 1005. Support for claims reciting a three-dimensional memory array may at least be found at page 14 in paragraph 1046. Each new dependent claim is believed allowable at least for its dependence from an allowable claim.

In summary, claims 1-74 are in the case. All claims are believed to be allowable over the art of record, and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner to discuss this response, and further in the hope that any remaining issues might be efficiently resolved.

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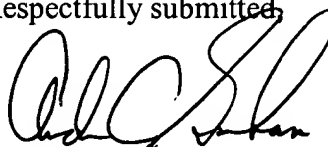
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Date

Respectfully submitted,



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